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INFORMATION REPORT	25X1A

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia/Ger	rmany (Russian Zone)	DATE DISTR. 6 December :	1948
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1. Prof. Karl Schiffner of the Freiberg Mining Adademy wrote a book in 1911 entitled "Uran-Mineralien in Sachsen" which located seventy-eight different deposits of uranium in the Erzgebirge area. When the Russians started their present mining operations in the area, they used this book as a guide. Dipl. Ing. Päukert, onetime assistant to Schiffner at the Mining Academy, is still in the area and has refused repeated Russian requests to work for them. The Russians are now looking for other assistants of Prof. Schiffner.

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- 2. The Russians are nowiusing a new system for recovering pure uranium ore at the Blaufarbenwerk, Aue, Object 100, which they claim to have developed for the first time. This process involves the use of a "wet chemical preparation" (Nasschemische Aufbereitung) with a 6 percent solution of hydrochloric acid. The process is to be introduced in a plant in Freiberg, too. It is believed that it will replace the washing process.
- 3. The headquarters of the Wismuth AG is not moving from Aue, but a similar head-quarters which is believed to have similar powers is now in Freiberg.
- 4. Russian mining operations now extend forty kilometers into Czechoslovakia. The probing elements of Object 1 have moved 15 kilometers south to Platten (Blatna) in Czechoslovakia and those of Object 23 to Jachymov. This is normal procedure now, and the whole mining outfit of a particular Object follows these probing outfits if the find warrants the move. German miners are being settled in the mining areas of Czechoslovakia.
- 5. The best finds of pure uranium have been made in the Annaberg area.
- 6. Any material with a uranium content of less than 2 percent goes to a local ore-washing plant. Material having a higher uranium content is packed into boxes right in the shafts and is taken to Dresden for air transport to Russia.
- 7. The Zaugckerode shaft near Freithal was examined recently and the tailings were found to contain uranium.
- 8. The Freiberg Mining Academy has been stripped of almost all the capable men who were formerly on the staff. Prof. Dr. Maurer, the discoverer of non-rusting steel, was fired a year ago for refusing to join the SED. Prof. Koops, a Dutchman, was fired at the end of 1946.

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